GREEN CITY ACTION PLAN 2006

PASADENA

THINK GREEN

FOR GENERATIONS TO COME

PASADENA

GREEN CITY ACTION PLAN 2006

INTRODUCTION

How can Pasadena protect its distinctive quality of life when faced with the demands of growth and global impacts on natural resources?

To help address this concern, Pasadena is launching a comprehensive environmental action plan that will guide the City towards sustainability and which will accelerate the City's environmental commitment.

The framework for and goals contained within this Green City Action Plan follow the United Nations Urban Environmental Accords of 2005 which acknowledge the environmental challenges and opportunities facing urban areas across the globe. The Accords offers cities 21 specific goals to accomplish by World Environment Day 2012 with three goals assigned to each of the following urban sustainability thematic areas:

1. Energy
2. Waste Reduction
3. Urban Design
4. Urban Nature
5. Transportation
6. Environmental Health
7. Water

This Green City Action Plan contains a wide range of initiatives that form a strategy towards fulfilling the ambitions of the Urban Environmental Accords. Identified are means to conserve energy and water, reduce waste, address global warming, tailor urban design, protect natural habitats, improve transportation options and reduce risks to human health.

At the end of the seven years a city that has successfully implemented actions will be recognized by the United Nations as a Green City with a ranking determined by the number of actions completed.

19-21	ACTIONS	CITY
16-18	ACTIONS	CITY
12-15	ACTIONS	CITY
8-11	ACTIONS	CITY

The good news is that Pasadena has achieved at least seven of the Accords actions through past efforts and on-going programs. Potentially, an additional two actions will be completed by the end of 2007 ensuring the City a minimum Green City Status. However, every effort will be made to achieve the highest Green City ranking possible.

But the City is striving to do more than just tally points - initiatives have been added to many of the achieved actions to further strengthen the City's commitment to sustainability.

With a history of environmental conservation, and wealth of scientific achievement, Pasadena is uniquely situated to introduce innovative solutions to meet the goals set forth in the Urban Environmental Accords.

Successful implementation of this strategic action plan during the next six years will ensure Pasadena remains competitively poised for future growth while preserving the health of its environment for generations to come.

ENERGY

ACTION 1

Increase the use of renewable energy to meet 10% of the city's peak electric load within seven years.

Pasadena is fortunate to have its own utility, Pasadena Water & Power, which has been in operation since 1906 and is committed to securing reliable renewable energy contracts with the goal of supplying residents with 10% renewable energy by 2010 and 20% by 2017. The Water and Power Department is studying the feasibility of phasing in 100% green power at City facilities, including City Hall, the Pasadena Conference Center, and the City's community centers. In order to reach this goal, an analysis of the costs of providing "green power" (energy derived from wind) at these facilities against the environmental benefits will be performed. The City will also investigate the feasibility of generating renewable energy by installing solar power equipment on city-owned facilities such as water reservoirs and parking structures.

DID YOU KNOW?

Renewable energy is energy derived from sustaining sources such as wind, geothermal (steam from underground magna), landfill gas (methane produced from trash), solar (sun) and hydroelectric facilities (dams).

ACTION 2

Reduce the city's peak electric load by 10% within seven years through energy efficiency, shifting the timing of energy demands and conservation measures.

The Pasadena Water & Power Department expects completion of an energy efficiency study by 2007 and incorporating experience with customer efficiency retrofit measures to design and implement future cost-effective energy efficiency programs including:

1. Requiring new commercial projects to achieve a minimum 10% energy efficiency over baseline by amending the Green Building Practices Ordinance.

2. Conducting a feasibility study for installing devices on municipal and private buildings that reduce the power required to operate equipment and for shifting the equipment usage to off-peak

3. Creating a "time of use" billing rate that offers lower rates for electric usage during off-peak hours than during peak hours. Other possible rates to consider include tiered energy rates

4. Replacing incandescent traffic signal lights with energy saving lights.

ACTION 3

Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 25% by 2030, and include a system for accounting and auditing these emissions

The Pasadena Water & Power Department will complete a study calculating the amount of greenhouse gas emitted in Pasadena to use as a gauge to plan future reductions that meet or exceed the action goal.

DID YOU KNOW?

Pasadena Water & Power offers Green Power to residents. PWP is pleased to offer environmentally friendly "green power" to customers. Currently, 100% of PWP's green power comes from wind sources and is available for an extra energy charge. Customers can choose from three different options at incremental additional costs - a small price to pay for these cleaner energy sources.

If you have questions or want to learn more, please call PWP at (626) 744-4005 or (626) 744-6970 (PWP AnswerLine) for more information or visit the city's website at www.ci.pasadena.ca.us.

WASTE REDUCTION

ACTION 4

Achieve zero waste to landfills and incinerators by 2040.

This ambitious goal can be achieved with advancements in technology and by starting off with realistic first-steps as follows:

- Require new construction projects to divert 60% of their waste away from landfills

- Implement increased diversion requirements for franchises establishing a goal of reaching a 75% diversion rate (a 50% increase from the current requirement) for the collection of solid waste or pay liquidated damages

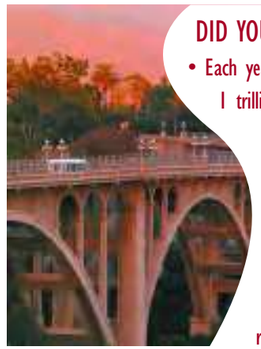
- Ensure development and construction of new structures has on-site recycling areas (in compliance with the Zoning Code Section 17.40.120)

- Request a plan from franchises outlining strategies to increase commercial recycling as a condition of license renewal

- Implement a Food Waste Recycling Program for restaurants within the City

- Establish a permanent electronic waste collection center in the City where residents can bring their electronic and universal waste to be recycled

- Work in collaboration with local grocery stores and supermarkets to set a reduction target of a given quantity of disposable grocery bags



DID YOU KNOW?

- Each year, an estimated 500 billion to 1 trillion plastic bags are consumed worldwide
- If Californians cut their plastic bag waste in half, it would save over two thousand barrels of oil a day (over 800,000 barrels a year) and keep 73,000 tons of rubbish out of our landfills
- Some estimate a plastic bag takes one thousand years to decompose
- Only 10 to 15 percent of paper bags and 1 to 3 percent of plastic bags are recycled

ACTION 5

Reduce the use of a disposable, toxic, or non-renewable product category by at least 50% in seven years.

Support statewide legislation and local initiatives requiring manufacturers to take responsibility for collecting and recycling their products at the end of their useful life.

ACTION 6

Implement "user-friendly" recycling and composting programs, with the goal of reducing by 25% per capita solid waste disposal to landfill and incineration in seven years.

In 2004, 62% of Pasadena's waste was diverted from landfills through recycling and reuse. This accomplishment is a result of Pasadena's many user-friendly recycling and composting programs including curbside recycling, pay-as-you-throw, composting workshops, and outstanding recycler awards. These programs will continue to ensure the action goal is met.

To learn more about the City of Pasadena's Recycling and Reduction programs, visit the City of Pasadena Department of Public Works Recycling website at http://www.ci.pasadena.ca.us/publicworks/smiwmii.

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DID YOU KNOW?

- Food waste alone accounts for 40% of the waste stream from residents and businesses in Pasadena

URBAN DESIGN

ACTION 7

Mandate a green building rating system standard that applies to all new municipal buildings.

This requirement has been met by the adoption of the Green Building Practices Ordinance which is a comprehensive program that promotes the construction and operation of environmentally sound buildings in the City. To continue advancing this initiative, in April 2008, the Pasadena City Council will evaluate the success of the Green Building Practices Ordinance and consider lowering the thresholds for projects and creating green standards for residential projects.

An important component of green building is the need to maintain healthy indoor air quality after the building has been constructed. To provide an example for Pasadena businesses, the City is developing practices for cleaning, maintenance, and operations of municipal facilities to further advance sustainability and eliminate the use of toxins. Maintenance staff will be trained, and purchasing staff will be required to purchase environmentally preferable cleaning products. Further, green specifications will be adopted for City remodeling projects, requiring low-emission and environmentally-friendly carpet, sealants, adhesives, paint, flooring, and office furnishings.

DID YOU KNOW?

While 90% of the average American's time is spent indoors, 30% of buildings have poor air quality?

In the United States, buildings account for:

- 72% of electricity use
- 30% of greenhouse gas emissions
- 30% of raw materials use
- 30% of waste output
- 12% of potable water consumption

ACTION 8

Advance higher density, mixed use, walkable, bikeable and disabled accessible neighborhoods which coordinate land use and transportation with open space systems for recreation and ecological restoration.

Since adopting the General Plan Land Use and Mobility Elements in 1994, Pasadena has embraced the concepts of high-density, mixed use, walkable, bikeable, and disabled-accessible neighborhoods and through these efforts has achieved this action. As new developments are introduced, the City will monitor plans to ensure that each new project enhances the pedestrian and transit environment.

Each new and amended planning document will contain objectives, policies and implementation measures that support the coordination of land use and transportation with open space systems for recreation and ecological reconstruction.

Pasadena supports the development of transit-oriented developments, and continues to seek local, state, and federal funding sources that provide funds for multi-modal transportation that better connect the community and disabled residents to the City's open space systems.

ACTION 9

Create environmentally beneficial jobs in slums and/or low-income neighborhoods.

The Maintenance Assistance Services to Homeowners (MASH) Program provides housing rehabilitation and related services in needy areas of Northwest Pasadena. The MASH Program, in addition to mitigating blight, also serves as a job training mechanism for up to 70 low-income and at-risk individuals. The Water & Power Department works with MASH to install water and energy conserving fixtures in low-income neighborhoods. As the electronic waste and food compost pilot programs develop, MASH employees will be involved and assist with the logistics of the programs.

In order to foster environmental stewardship through the education of area youth, Pasadena partners with community organizations to develop outdoor environmental education and vocational model programs at the City's local parks and open spaces.

The City will pursue forward thinking opportunities to promote and create "green collar" jobs.

URBAN NATURE

ACTION 10

Ensure that there is an accessible public park or recreational open space within 1/2 kilometer of all residents by 2015.

The City of Pasadena is amending the Recreation and Parks Master Plan and Green Space and Recreation Element of the General Plan to include the goal of providing an accessible public park or recreational open space exists within 1/2 mile of every resident.

Core Green Space principles include:

- All Pasadena neighborhoods shall have access to park, open spaces and recreation facilities that serve their unique needs
- All Pasadena residents shall live within reasonable walking distance of a park, open space, or recreation facility
- Pasadena will be a City that actively creates new green spaces by promoting creative partnerships with the Pasadena Unified School District and other agencies and private institutions to provide access to and development of non-traditional parks, cultural and recreational opportunities

ACTION 11

Conduct an inventory of existing canopy coverage in the City; and, then establish a goal to plant and maintain canopy coverage in not less than 50% of all available sidewalk planting sites.

The City of Pasadena is conducting a tree canopy coverage survey which will provide information on the benefits provided by City trees and be used as a baseline to monitor the tree canopy coverage. The City will maintain the 62,000 public trees that grace the landscape with the goal of having no more than 5% vacancy in dedicated street planting areas at any given time.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Every year, deforestation constitutes 20-25% of worldwide carbon dioxide emissions
- Trees help reduce stormwater runoff, erosion, add oxygen, provide shade, and increase property values

DID YOU KNOW?

Pasadena has

- 23 parks
- 341 acres of parkland
- 62,000 public trees

ACTION 12

Protect critical habitat corridors and other key habitat characteristics from unsustainable development.

Pasadena values the beautiful Arroyo Seco and Eaton Canyon park lands, and protection of the native animals who live in these habitats. Pasadena is proactively seeking funding for habitat restoration projects, which are planned in the Arroyo Seco Master Plans.

The City recently finished a study on the Arroyo Seco Watershed, in which measures where outlined that will restore the watershed. Implementation of the recommendations is actively being pursued.

TRANSPORTATION

ACTION 13

Expand affordable public transportation coverage to within 1/2 kilometer of all city residents in ten years.

The City of Pasadena is committed to improving transit service in order to stem increasing reliance on the automobile. The City has focused on this goal for the past decade with considerable success. Currently, Pasadena is served by more than 25 transit routes with 400 bus stops. The Metro Gold Line light-rail train has 7 major transit stations in the City, linking Pasadena to the regional transit network at Union Station in Los Angeles. With these systems in place, 89% of Pasadena residents live within 1/2 mile of either a train or bus stop. The City is continuing to expand the local transit service, Pasadena ARTS.

Pasadena is working to create incentives for using public transit, especially for housing located within 1/2 mile of transit stations, to support the City's Transit Oriented Development goals.

ACTION 14

Phase down sulfur levels in diesel and gasoline fuels, use advanced emission controls on all public fleets to reduce particulate matter and smog-forming emissions from those fleets by 50% in seven years.

The State of California regulates diesel and gasoline fuel and has some of the most stringent requirements in the nation.

Pasadena Public Works Department manages the City's vehicle fleet and is actively committed to the use of cleaner burning fuels and technologies in place of conventional diesel fuel. Bio-diesel fuel which is a blend of regular diesel and organically derived vegetable oils has recently been introduced for use by the City fleet.

The City seeks every opportunity to purchase alternate fuel cars and light-duty trucks, in particular hybrid powered vehicles and is in the process of creating standards for ensuring alternative fuel vehicles are purchased.

The City uses compressed natural gas (CNG) powered vehicles for many of its heavy duty needs, and is installing a CNG fueling facility at the City Yards to support an increasing need for CNG fuel.

ACTION 15

Implement a policy to reduce the percentage of commute trips by single occupancy vehicles by 10% in seven years.

The residents, commuters, and visitors in Pasadena have diverse mobility needs. In addressing these needs, the City has developed proactive policy goals and innovative programs to encourage the most efficient use of the City's existing transportation infrastructure through a balanced multi-modal approach.

The City has commissioned a comprehensive analysis of the City's transportation infrastructure which will offer traffic reduction strategies that consider economic development, accommodate future residential and employment growth, and address overall mobility and access.

The City actively works with new developments to install safe and convenient bicycle parking, encouraging all non-residential developments 25,000 square feet or larger to install showers in buildings to facilitate bicycling. Soon, the Green Building Practices Ordinance will be amended to require projects to not only install bike racks but to provide shower and changing facilities on site. This will increase the opportunities and convenience for bike riders.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

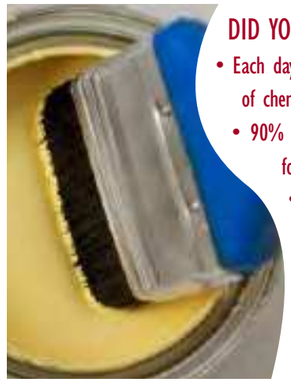
ACTION 16

Every year, identify one product, chemical or compound that is used within the city that represents the greatest risk to human health and reduce or eliminate its use by the municipal government.

In response to dangers poised by chemical use, the city will consider banning the use in City facilities 1) aerosols, 2) floor polish, 3) standard volatile organic compound (VOC) emitting paint 4) chemical paint strippers, 5) VOC emitting graffiti removers, 6) toxic chemical disinfectants, and 7) toxic pesticides.

Green procurement practices will be created to ensure that City government workers are not exposed to hazardous chemicals or materials, and that environmentally preferable products are favored in purchasing.

With the City's many parks and open landscaped public areas, pest control is a necessity. However, pesticides can be harmful to those who administer them, as well as the environment. Pasadena will create an integrated pest control management (IPM) plan for all City facilities and parks which will rely on commonsense practices and natural compounds to combat the negative effects of pests.



DID YOU KNOW?

- Each day, the U.S. produces 42 billion pounds of chemicals
- 90% of chemicals are created from fossil fuel
- Many of these commonly used products can cause blindness, burn skin, and, through the skin or inhalation, damage the kidneys, liver, developing fetuses, and the nervous system
- Six out of every 100 janitors have lost-work time injuries each year, including eye injuries or irritations, skin irritations or burns, and respiratory problems resulting from the inhalation of chemical fumes

ACTION 17

Support the public health and envronmental benefits of locally grown organic foods. Ensure that 20% of all city facilities (including schools) serve locally grown and organic food within seven years.

Acknowledging the importance of organic foods, Pasadena is investigating the feasibility of requiring City food vendors to provide 20% locally grown organic food for municipal functions. The City plans to educate and train owners of retail food markets and produce trucks about the availability of organic food products through the Public Health Department MAP Campaign. MAP's vision is for the greater Pasadena area to become a healthy, thriving community that values and promotes overall wellness.

Pasadena is also seeking opportunities to create more community gardens where local residents can grow their own vegetables free of pesticides.

ACTION 18

Establish an Air Quality Index (AQI) to measure the level of air pollution and set the goal of reducing by 10% in seven years the number of days categorized in the AQI range as "unhealthy" or "hazardous."

Pasadena is creating a plan for analyzing and developing recommendations to improve air quality in the City. Close attention will also be paid to the progress of California Senate Bill 44, which may require local cities to adopt an Air Quality Element as part of their General Plans.

WATER

ACTION 19

Develop policies to increase adequate access to safe drinking water, aiming at access for all by 2015. For cities with potable water consumptions greater than 100 liters per capita per day, adopt and implement policies to reduce consumption by 10% by 2015.

Over the last ten years, the implementation of aggressive conservation measures has contributed to a decrease in the City's water consumption by almost 7.5%. Pasadena will continue to offer these programs, and develop further innovations to decrease water consumption as follows:

Irrigation Efficiencies - Focus City programs on outdoor water efficiencies, such as weather based irrigation controllers, drought tolerant landscaping and high water usage areas.

Time of Sale Replacement Program - Adopt an ordinance requiring replacement of inefficient plumbing fixtures (toilets, urinals, shower heads, etc.) when properties located in Pasadena change ownership.

Gray Water - Amend the code to allow use of gray water (untreated wastewater salvaged from baths, showers, and clothes washers) for use in irrigation of residential or other landscaping.

Dedicated Landscape Water Meter - Develop a feasibility study for requiring a dedicated water meter for landscape irrigation on properties larger than 15,000 square feet.

Green Building Water Efficiency- Amend the Green Building Practices Ordinance to mandate all applicable projects achieve a water use reduction of 20% over baseline.

Emerging Technologies - Continue working with the Metropolitan Water District to research, develop, and implement existing and emerging water efficiency technologies and strategies that will accomplish the water conservation goals to reduce water consumption by 10% by 2015.

Water Deliveries - All City facilities which previously were provided with private vendor water deliveries are required to use potable water. In the long-term, the City should experience a substantial cost-savings; fewer resources devoted for the production of plastic water containers; and less global greenhouse gas emitted through the container production. Each delivery run reduction in Pasadena helps to reduced traffic congestion and improve air quality.

ACTION 20

Protect the ecological integrity of the city's primary drinking water sources (i.e., aquifers, rivers, lakes, wetlands and associated ecosystems).

The City of Pasadena obtains water from two sources; groundwater and imported water. Water supply consists of 40% groundwater and 60% imported water, although the exact

proportion may vary from year to year. In order to ensure the integrity of the groundwater from Pasadena's aquifers, a perchlorate water treatment plant is being constructed near the City's Corporate Yards.

It is also important to address pollution in Pasadena's parks and watersheds, which feed our groundwater supply. Pasadena is implementing extensive Hahamongna Watershed Park recommendations related to groundwater recharge and water quality, and is proactively engaged in planning efforts with Los Angeles County for the Eaton Canyon watershed preservation, naturalization and groundwater recharge.

Pasadena has taken steps to decrease the volume of wastewater for treatment by encouraging water conservation and offering rebates for waterless urinals, low flow toilets, and other water conserving fixtures.

ACTION 21

Adopt municipal wastewater management guidelines and reduce the volume of untreated wastewater discharges by 10% in seven years through the expanded use of recycled water and the implementation of a sustainable urban watershed planning process that includes participants of all affected communities and is based on sound economic, social and environmental principles.

The City considers recycled water as a viable water supply source and effective way to reduce the future need for imported water, and is creating a funding plan to implement the use of recycled water.

CONCLUSION

The Green City Action Plan outlines first steps towards achieving a green and sustainable community. To reinforce the City's commitment to environmental stewardship, the newly formed citizen's Environmental Advisory Commission will monitor the implementation of this plan and guide its progress. Public meetings held by the commission provide an opportunity for interested individuals and groups to express their ideas on related sustainability issues. Be on the lookout for more information in the *Pasadena In Focus* and at the City's Green City website at http://www.ci.pasadena.ca.us

DID YOU KNOW?

- A typical hose nozzle uses 8-18 gallons of water per minute compared to a pressurized water broom of 2-3 gallons per minute
- Typically 50% or more of household water is used for outdoor irrigation
- PWP customers use thirty-two million gallons of water each day

PASADENA GREEN CITY ACTION PLAN REPORT CARD

JANUARY 2007

URBAN ENVIRONMENTAL ACCORD ACTION	ACHIEVED	LIKELY	UNDETERMINED
A. ENERGY			
1. Renewable Energy	✓		
2. Energy Efficiency			✓
3. Climate Change			✓
B. WASTE REDUCTION			
4. Zero Waste		✓	
5. Manufacturer Waste		✓	
6. Recycling	✓		
C. URBAN DESIGN			
7. Green Building	✓		
8. Urban Planning	✓		
9. Environmental Jobs	✓		
D. URBAN NATURE			
10. Green Space Access			✓
11. Tree Canopy		✓	
12. Habitat Protection	✓		
E. TRANSPORTATION			
13. Public Transportation	✓		
14. Clean Vehicles		✓	
15. Traffic Congestion		✓	
F. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH			
16. Toxics Reduction		✓	
17. Organic Foods		✓	
18. Air Quality			✓
G. WATER			
19. Potable Water Conservation		✓	
20. Water Source Protection		✓	
21. Waste Water Reduction		✓	
TOTALS	**7**	**10**	**4**

United Nations Green Cities Declaration

A GREEN & SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY

PASADENA

THINK GREEN

URBAN ENVIRONMENTAL ACCORDS

GREEN CITIES DECLARATION

Signed on the occasion of United Nations Environmental Programs World Environment Day June 5th, 2005 in San Francisco, California

RECOGNIZING for the first time in history the majority of the planet's population now lives in cities and that continued urbanization will result in one million people moving to cities each week, thus creating a new set of environmental challenges and opportunities; and

BELIEVING that as Mayors of cities around the globe, we have a unique opportunity to provide leadership to develop truly sustainable urban centers based on culturally and economically appropriate local actions; and

RECALLING that in 1945 the leaders of 50 nations gathered in San Francisco to develop and sign the Charter of the United Nations; and

ACKNOWLEDGING the importance of the obligation and spirit of the 1972 Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment, the 1992 Rio Earth Summit (UNCED), the 1996 Istanbul Conference on Human Settlements, the 2000 Millennium Development Goals, and the 2002 Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development, we see the Urban Environmental Accords described below as a synergistic extension of the efforts to advance sustainability, foster vibrant economies, promote social equity, and protect the planet's natural systems.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, today on World Environment Day 2005 in San Francisco, we the signatory Mayors have come together to write a new chapter in the history of global cooperation. We commit to promote this collaborative platform and to build an ecologically sustainable, economically dynamic, and socially equitable future for our urban citizens; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we call to action our fellow Mayors around the world to sign the Urban Environmental Accords and collaborate with us to implement the Accords; and

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED that by signing these Urban Environmental Accords, we commit to encourage our City governments to adopt these Accords and commit our best efforts to achieve the Actions stated within. By implementing the Urban Environmental Accords, we aim to realize the right to a clean, healthy, and safe environment for all members our society.

IMPLEMENTATION & RECOGNITION

THE 21 ACTIONS that comprise the Urban Environmental Accords are organized by urban themes. They are proven first steps toward environmental sustainability. However, to achieve long-term sustainability, cities will have to progressively improve performance in all thematic areas.

Implementing the Urban Environmental Accords will require an open, transparent, and participatory dialogue between government, community groups, businesses, academic institutions, and other key partners. Accords implementation will benefit where decisions are made on the basis of a careful assessment of available alternatives using the best available science.

The call to action set forth in the Accords will most often result in cost savings as a result of diminished resource consumption and improvements in the health and general well-being of city residents. Implementation of the Accords can leverage each city's purchasing power to promote and even require responsible environmental, labor and human rights practices from vendors. Between now and the World Environment Day 2012, cities shall work to implement as many of the 21 Actions as possible The ability of cities to enact local environmental laws and policies differs greatly. However, the success of the Accords will ultimately be judged on the basis of actions taken. Therefore, the Accords can be implemented though programs and activities even where cities lack the requisite legislative authority to adopt laws.

The goal is for cities to pick three actions to adopt each year. In order to recognize the progress of cities to implement the Accords, a City Green Star Program shall be created.

At the end of the seven years the city that has implemented:

19-21 ACTIONS CITY

16-18 ACTIONS CITY

12-15 ACTIONS CITY

8-11 ACTIONS CITY

ENERGY

Renewable Energy • Energy Efficiency • Climate Change

ACTION 1

Adopt and implement a policy to increase the use of renewable energy to meet ten per cent of the city's peak electric load within seven years.

ACTION 2

Adopt and implement a policy to reduce the city's peak electric load by ten per cent within seven years through energy efficiency, shifting the timing of energy demands and conservation measures.

ACTION 3

Adopt a citywide greenhouse gas reduction plan that reduces the jurisdiction's emissions by twenty-five per cent by 2030, and which includes a system for accounting and auditing greenhouse gas emissions.

WASTE REDUCTION

Zero Waste • Manufacturer Responsibility • Consumer Responsibility

ACTION 4

Establish a policy to achieve zero waste to landfills and incinerators by 2040.

ACTION 5

Adopt a citywide law that reduces the use of a disposable, toxic, or non-renewable product category by at least fifty percent in seven years.

ACTION 6

Implement "user-friendly" recycling and composting programs, with the goal of reducing by twenty per cent per capita solid waste disposal to landfill and incineration in seven years.

URBAN DESIGN

Green Building • Urban Planning • Slums

ACTION 7

Adopt a policy that mandates a green building rating system standard that applies to all new municipal buildings.

ACTION 8

Adopt urban planning principles and practices that advance higher density, mixed use, walkable, bikeable and disabled accessible neighborhoods which coordinate land use and transportation with open space systems for recreation and ecological restoration.

ACTION 9

Adopt a policy or implement a program that creates environmentally beneficial jobs in slums and/or low-income neighborhoods.

URBAN NATURE

Parks • Habitat Restoration • Wildlife

ACTION 10

Ensure that there is an accessible public park or recreational open space within half-a-kilometer of every city resident by 2015.

ACTION 11

Conduct an inventory of existing canopy coverage in the city; and, then establish a goal based on ecological and community considerations to plant and maintain canopy coverage in not less than fifty per cent of all available sidewalk planting sites.

ACTION 12

Pass legislation that protects critical habitat corridors and other key habitat characteristics (e.g. water features, food-bearing plants, shelter for wildlife, use of native species, et.) from unsustainable development.

TRANSPORTATION

Public Transportation • Clean Vehicles • Reducing Congestion

ACTION 13

Develop and implement a policy which expands affordable public transportation coverage to within half-a-kilometer of all city residents in ten years.

ACTION 14

Pass a law or implement a program that eliminates leaded gasoline (where it is still used); phases down sulfur levels in diesel and gasoline fuels, concurrent with using advanced emission controls on all buses, taxis, and public fleets to reduce particulate matter and smog-forming emissions from those fleets by fifty per cent in seven years.

ACTION 15

Implement a policy to reduce the percentage of commute trips by single occupancy vehicles by ten per cent in seven years.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Toxics Reduction • Healthy Food Systems • Clean Air

ACTION 16

Every year, identify one product, chemical or compound that is used within the city that represents the greatest risk to human health and adopt a law and provide incentives to reduce or eliminate its use by the municipal government.

ACTION 17

Promote the public health and environmental benefits of supporting locally grown organic foods. Ensure that twenty per cent of all city facilities (including schools) serve locally grown and organic food within seven years.

ACTION 18

Establish an Air Quality Index (AQI) to measure the level of air pollution and set the goal of reducing by ten per cent in seven years the number of days categorized in the AQI range as "unhealthy" or "hazardous."

WATER

Water Access & Efficiency • Source Water Conservation • Waste Water Reduction

ACTION 19

Develop policies to increase adequate access to safe drinking water, aiming at access for all by 2015. For cities with potable water consumptions greater than 100 liters per capita per day, adopt and implement policies to reduce consumption by ten per cent by 2015.

ACTION 20

Protect the ecological integrity of the city's primary drinking water sources (i.e., aquifers, rivers, lakes, wetlands and associated ecosystems).

ACTION 21

Adopt municipal wastewater management guidelines and reduce the volume of untreated wastewater discharges by ten per cent in seven years through the expanded use of recycled water and the implementation of a sustainable urban watershed planning process that includes participants of all affected communities and is based on sound economic, social and environmental principles.

URBAN ENVIRONMENTAL ACCORDS

1. What are the Urban Environmental Accords?

Recognizing that majority of the world's population now reside in cities, and that cities consume 75% of the world's natural resources, the City of San Francisco, as host city of the United Nations World Environment Day 2005, selected "Green Cities" as the unifying theme for the event and developed the Urban Environmental Accords, a set of 21 action steps that intends to address the special environmental challenges and opportunities of cities everywhere. Given the unique capacity of mayors to initiate and steer initiatives that produce immediate and direct outcomes, mayors are recognized as excellent change agents for making urban communities into models of sustainable development. It is for this reason that mayors from all over the world came to San Francisco on June 1-5, 2005 to share ideas and discuss solutions to universal urban environmental issues on energy, waste reduction, urban design, urban nature, transportation, environmental health, water.

2. What is the goal of the Urban Environmental Accords?

The Urban Environmental Accords are a series of implementable goals that can be adopted at the city level to achieve urban sustainability, promote healthy economies, advance social equity and protect the world's ecosystem. By achieving success at the city level, the multilateral city commitments of the Urban Environmental Accords can inspire and mobilize expanded commitment at the national level. The Urban Environmental Accords build on and continue the legacy of the 1972 Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment, the 1992 Rio Earth Summit, the 1996 Istanbul Conference on Human Settlements, the 2000 Millennium Development Goals and the 2002 Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development

3. How do cities adopt the Accords?

Implementing the Urban Environmental Accords will require open and active participatory dialogue between the cities, residents, community groups, businesses, academic institutions and other stakeholders. At the end of seven years, a city that has implemented 19-21 Action Steps will be recognized as a 4-Star City, a 3-Star City for 15-18 Action Steps, a 2-Star City for 12-17 Action Steps and a 1-Star City for 8-11 Action Steps.

4. Some of the goals appear too high, unrealistic or may not necessarily apply to every city. How do cities handle the implementation process?

The 21 Action Steps of the Urban Environmental Accords are a series of action-oriented steps that cities can use as reference points for setting achievable goals and standards that can be tailored to fit the specific structures of their communities. The ability of cities to enact local environmental laws and policies differ from cities to cities. However, the success of the Accords will ultimately be judged on the basis of actions taken collectively. Accordingly, the Accords can be implemented through programs, services or activities even where cities may lack the requisite legislative authority to mandate laws.

5. How will implementing these goals result in cost savings?

Measures that support the sustainable utilization and management of energy, urban design, waste reduction, urban nature, transportation, environmental health and water resources often result in reduced resource consumption and improvements in the general health and economic wellbeing of cities. Adopting the Accords can leverage a city's purchasing power and promote the advancement of environmentally sound practices.

6. Who will monitor progress and enforcement?

City mayors may appoint a special city council, city department or advisory group that will work with the mayor in setting goals and oversee the implementation process. In many instances, the Accords can be integrated as part of the city's long-term Sustainability Plan. We will also be working very closely with the International Council of Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) and their partners to implement the Accords.

7. Is there a follow-up session to report and discuss the cooperative progress achieved by all signatory cities?

In 2012, seven years after the initial signing of the Urban Environmental Accords, a United Nations conference will discuss the progress of each city in implementing the Accords. Additional information regarding the Accords is available on www.wed2005.org and questions can be directed at accords@sfenvironment.com.

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